



What did you want to talk to me about?

Sorry, Monakata-kun. I didn't mean to take so long.

That was some brilliant detective work back there.

Who would have guessed that the lady police officer would turn to a life of crime?

!

every-where you go?

Why do you take your dear little puppy

Huh?

That's not normal, is it?

She had her reasons.

...You don't have to say it like that.

Inciden- tally...

...It doesn't matter.





I told him
to find
something
that started
near her.

It...it's nothing
like that. He
found the
ticket because
I put him
on Takeru's
scene.



You
see,
Takeru-
kun.

Oh, he's
much
more
advanced
than that.



It's like

he's
coaching
you...



Wha...?!

is just too
smart for
you to have
pulled off on
your own!

In my
opinion,
everything
you've
done



He is in full
communi-
cation with
you,

and he's
been helping
you solve
those cases!

That dog
of yours

has enough
brain
power to be
considered
a genius
by human
standards.



This is a picture I secretly shot of you

when you were talking to your dog.

You... you were sneaking pictures?

AREN'T you a detective?

Yeah...yeah right, like something that so-parnatural would...

Oh no!!



Look at this.



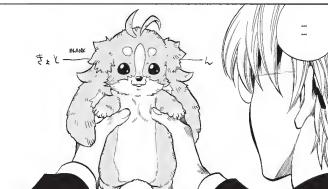
He's like... yes.

Look at the dog's eyes.

You have to admit, there's a spark of intelligence there.



He's like the famous detective, Sherlock Holmes!





But now you can see he's just a normal dog.

S...sorry about that. He's not really house-trained.

P...penin! Ugh! Blech! Blech!



Train your dog!

Why... why you!



That was a pretty good performance.

It's safe now, Shindog.



That was close...

Whew...



Woof! Woof!

You were just like a real...



Like when you peed on him.

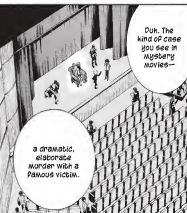




A case
"like
this"?

Ooohh, I've
always
wanted
to work a
case like
this!

This is
why I
became a
detective!



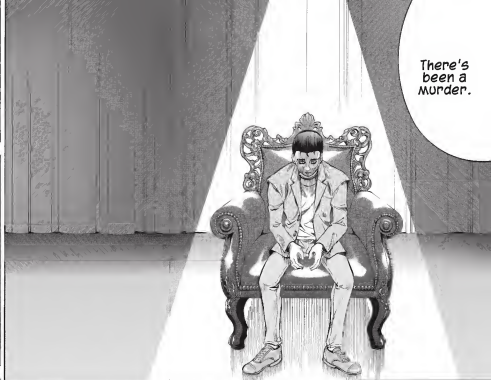
Duh. The
kind of case
you see in
mystery
movies—

a dramatic,
elaborate
murder with a
famous victim.



It's a little
disappointing
that the victim
was Monte
Kowatsoda.

a practically
unknown
comedian.

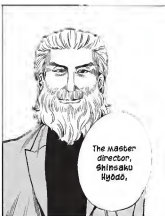


There's
been a
murder.



Right on
stage!

An actor
was killed
after
rehearsal.





For the
mystery
play,
Whodunnit?

The
crime
happened
right
after
rehear-
sal!



before
heading
to the
pre-party
venue.

Everyone
was there—
cast, lighting
crew, sound
techs...

After
rehearsal,
everyone went
back to their
dressing
rooms.



While they
were all
together,
the victim,
Konatsuda
said...

...



I'll be
right
back.

I'm
getting a
call about
work. I'm
going to
step out.



Pre-
party?

It's a cast
party, only
instead
of after
the final
performance.

they have it
before the
show opens.

I see.





Hey, Komatsuda, wake up! We're taking a commemorative photo!

You can't sleep in the middle of the stage like that...



At the end of the party, everyone went to the stage to take a commemorative photo, and...

Oh! Komatto-chan's passed out drunk over here.



Monto Komatsuda, in a monster camo, WAKE HIM UP, KAZUMA KUROKI-KUN



Aaaaahhhh!
Komatsu-
daaaaa!



Because it
takes at least
five minutes
to suffocate
someone...

The cause
of death

was
stran-
gulation
by a cord
around his
neck.



And
Gae-
gusa.



#Yōdō.



... We've
narrowed
the list of
suspects to the
ones who had
disappeared for
that amount of
time.

Kazama-
tsuri.



which, of
course, casts
further
suspicion on
each of them.

15:32
① Moto Komatsuda
17:52

We have
determined
that all three
of them were
in regular
contact with
Komatsuda.

Furthermore,
from their
phone
histories,

He tried to take him out of the show multiple times.

He was constantly annoyed with Komatsuda's amateurish performance.

But someone was pressuring him into keeping him on.



And the motive?



I'll start with Hyodo.



No...I'd rather he died.

I'd rather die than let that amateur ruin it all.

I'm staking my whole life on this play.

It's possible that Kazama-tsuri was the one

indirectly putting the squeeze on Hyodo...



He had such a bizarrely high opinion of Komatsuda,

it sparked rumors that the comedian had some dirt on him.



...He let that little gem slip during a night out drinking.

Next, the star, Michal Kazama-tsuri.

What?!

And the rumor is...he forced her.

Apparently she and Komatsuda were sleeping together during rehearsals.

As for the playwright, Kanoe Saegusa.

Evidently she was his sugar mama.

...All right.

Your treat.

Hey, Kanoe, let's go get a bite.

I don't know what he had on her, but Komatsuda would say...

Okay, this is bad.

That's about the size of it.

...So apparently there's nothing good to say about this guy.

Isn't this
where you
look at the
body and the
suspects
and make
some brilliant
observation?

What's the
matter,
Takeru-kun?



But he's just
a normal
puppy now...

?

Usually, this
is where
Sherdog tells
me exactly
who did it.



*That
shoe...*



Maybe he
made Kanae
Saegusa buy
them?



Isn't that
weird? He's
a nameless,
unsuccessful
comedian, who
has to make his
woman buy his
meals.



Wearing
such ex-
pensive
shoes...

Oh, that's
Italian.



It's
really
loose.

Th-that
much?!



I have a pair
of the same
brand. They go
for at least
100,000
yen*.

*About \$1,000





The big-name
director,
Shinsaku Hyōdō

How long
are you
going to
keep me
here?

...Well, I
do already
know who I
want, but I
have to call
him, and
fast.

This isn't
funny. I
have to
find a sub-
stitute.

The famous actor,
Kyōhei Kazamatsuri.

Of
course
he has to
do this to
me now,
of all
times...

I mean,
I was a big
fan, so I'm
sad that
he's gone,
but...

I have
a TV ap-
pearance
to go to.

The beautiful
playwright,
Kanae Saegusa.

I know
what
everyone
said
about
him.

But he
wasn't...as
bad as all
that.

Why did
this
have to
happen...
to Mon-
ta-san...



I concur.

...One of
them is
pretty
suspicious.

